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SEP 13 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Harry Frederick Bowman :
Application No. 10/809120 : DECISION DISMISSING PETITION
Filed: 03/24/2004 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)
Attorney Docket No. TTI-03 :
:

This is a decision on the petition filed on 29 June, 2007, which is treated as a petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3), to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120 for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petition is **DISMISSED**

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000 and after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. §120 and 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Director may require additional where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The petition does not comply with item (1).

Applicant did not indicate the relationship between the present application and prior-filed nonprovisional Application No. 10/364,773 in the amendment filed concurrently with the present petition.

37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) requires that any nonprovisional application claiming the benefit of one or more prior-filed copending nonprovisional applications must contain or be amended to contain a reference to each such prior-filed application, identifying it by application number (consisting of the series code and serial number) and indicating the relationship of the applications. The relationship between the applications is whether the subject application is a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of a prior-filed nonprovisional application. An example of a proper benefit claim is: "This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/---, filed---." A benefit claim that merely states: "This application claims the benefit of Application No. 10/---, filed---," does not comply with 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) since the proper relationship, which includes the type of continuing application, is not stated. Also, the status of each nonprovisional parent application (if it is patented or abandoned) should also be indicated, following the filing date of the parent nonprovisional application. *See MPEP Section 201.11, Reference to Prior Nonprovisional Applications.* The amendment fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) and is therefore unacceptable.

Additionally, the amendment is not acceptable as drafted since it improperly incorporates by reference the prior-filed applications. An incorporation by reference statement added after an application's filing date is not effective because no new matter can be added to an application after its filing date (*see 35 U.S.C. § 132(a)*). If an incorporation by reference statement is included in an amendment to the specification to add a benefit claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120 after the filing date of the application, the amendment would not be proper. When a benefit claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120 is submitted after the filing of an application, the reference to the prior application cannot include an incorporation by reference statement of the prior application. *See Dart Industries v. Banner, 636 F.2d 684, 207 USPQ 273 (C.A.D.C. 1980).* Note MPEP §§ 201.06(c) and 608.04(b).

Before the petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) can be granted, a renewed petition and either an Application Data Sheet, signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b), or a substitute amendment (complying with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.121 and 37 CFR 1.76(b)(5)) to correct the above matters are required.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

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Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to Senior Petitions Attorney Douglas I. Wood at (571) 272-3231.

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/809,120	03/24/2004	3736	385	TTI-03	7	9	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 7721

James L. Neal
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FILING RECEIPT


OC000000012909940

Date Mailed: 06/09/2004

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Harry Frederick Bowman, Needham, MA;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CIP of 10/364,773 02/11/2003
 and claims benefit of 60/458,100 03/26/2003

Foreign Applications
If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 06/04/2004

Projected Publication Date: 09/16/2004

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**** SMALL ENTITY ****
Title

Blood flow monitor with venous and arterial sensors

Preliminary Class

600

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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NOT GRANTED

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